

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9-11, 13-19, 21, 23-25, 27-30, 32 and 33 are resubmitted. Claims 1, 9, 15, 21, 23, and 28 are currently amended. Claims 3, 6-8, 12, 22, 26 and 31 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 5 and 20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 11, 13-16, 23-25, and 27 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Mahringer et al., U.S. Patent 3,517,771 ("Mahringer"). Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Mahringer and Behr et al., U.S. Patent 3,298,154 ("Behr"). Claims 28, 29, and 32 have also been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Mahringer. Claim 30 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Mahringer (as applied to claim 28) and further in view of Behr. Claims 10, 19, and 33 have been rejected as "obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the mandrel on the device and method of AAPA." Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA/Mahringer (as applied to claim 15) and further in view of Goto et al., U.S. Patent 4,253,646 ("Goto"). Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA/Mahringer (as applied to claim 15) and further in view of Behr.

Examiner Interview

On December 19, 2005, a telephone interview was conducted between the Examiner and Applicants' representative. A proposed amendment and the references, in particular, U.S. Patent No. 3,517,771 ("Mahringer") were

discussed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the discussion. No agreement was reached.

Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Independent claims 9, 21, 23, and 28 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Mahringer or in view of Mahringer and Behr. Claims 9, 21, 23, and 28 are amended, support for which can be found in original claims 5 and 20 or alternatively in the specification, for example, at paragraph [0038] and in Figure 4.

While AAPA may disclose a composite material delivery head and the prior art references may disclose a vertical movement shaft supporting an arm mechanism disposed inside a chamber, none of the prior art teach or suggest a device for supporting and moving a composite material delivery head inside a mandrel conforming to an outer mold surface for aircraft that combines the claimed (as amended) autoclave features for curing composite materials, such as a pressure vessel having heating channels and surrounding the mandrel or an autoclave door sealable to the pressure vessel.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims 9, 21, 23, and 28 and claims dependent from them are now in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5 and 20 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten to include limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitations of claim 5 (and any intervening claims) have been

incorporated into claim 1 and the limitations of claim 20 have been incorporated into claim 15, claims 5 and 20 being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claims 1 and 15 and claims dependent from them, i.e., claims 1, 2, and 4, and claims 15-19 are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the notice of allowable subject matter and for the telephonic interview granted on December 19, 2005. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Office Action with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 9-11, 13-19, 21, 23-25, 27-30, 32 and 33 is requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

In the event the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the attorney at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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